

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims is provided as a courtesy:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1 to 12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (previously presented): A three-dimensionally shaped flat cable comprising:

a laminate including at least one conductor track enclosed between two insulation layers, an adhesive layer, and at least one support layer, the support layer connected to at least one of the insulation layers via the adhesive layer, the laminate being applied to a positive die and shaped by applying one of heat, radiation and pressure and fixed in a three-dimensional shape by cooling to below the glass transition temperature of the adhesive layer or by hardening the adhesive layer.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The flat cable as recited in claim 13 wherein the support layer is made of a metal foil or a plastic sheet.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The flat cable as recited in claim 13 wherein the support layer is a porous layer.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The flat cable as recited claim 13 wherein the adhesive layer is composed of an at least one of thermoplastic adhesive, an adhesive foil and an adhesive-bonded nonwoven having a melting point T_m of <180°C or a latent reactive adhesive having a cross-linking temperature of <140°C.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The flat cable as recited in claim 15 wherein an additional porous layer is provided for covering for better handling.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The flat cable as recited in claim 17 wherein the porous layer is made of a nonwoven or a fabric of polymer fibers.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The flat cable as recited claim 13 wherein the flat cable is at least partially back-coated using a thermoplastic.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The flat cable as recited claim 13 wherein the conductors of the conductor track are exposed at least in partial sections of their surface prior to lamination for forming contact fields.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The flat cable as recited in claim 13 wherein the flat cable is fitted with electronic components.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A method for manufacturing a dimensionally stable flat cable comprising:

applying to a positive die, adjusted at room temperature, a laminate, the laminate including (a) a conductor track enclosed between two insulation layers, (b) an adhesive layer, and (c) a support layer connected to at least one of the insulation layers via the adhesive layer, each of (a), (b) and (c) defining a laminate component, or applying a positive die separately to all components for the laminate, and

shaping the laminate or the components with the aid of at least one of heat, radiation and pressure; and

fixing the laminate or the component shape by cooling to below the glass transition temperature T_g of the adhesive layer or by hardening the adhesive layer.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 22 wherein for equalizing the temperature, a metal foil is used during the laminating process and/or in the die.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 22 wherein the laminate components, fixed in their shape, are installed in a separate step or are back-coated in an injection molding process using a thermoplastic.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A three-dimensionally shaped flat cable comprising:

 a laminate including a flexible flat cable, an adhesive layer, and at least one support layer, the support layer connected to the flexible flat cable via the adhesive layer, the laminate being applied to a positive die and shaped by applying one of heat, radiation and pressure and fixed in a three-dimensional shape by cooling to below the glass transition temperature of the adhesive layer or by hardening the adhesive layer.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The flat cable as recited in claim 13 wherein the laminate is fixed with respect to the die.